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Valerie Strange  
75 Nichole Court  
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February 22, 2014

Insurance and Real Estate Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
300 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Regarding: Raised Bill No. 5249  
AN ACT CONCERNING COPAYMENTS FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES.

Dear Co-Chairs, Ranking Members, and Members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

My name is Valerie Strange. I am an occupational therapist working in Cheshire as well as an assistant clinical professor at Quinnipiac University. I am writing to strongly request that Raised Bill No. 5249 be passed, which would be an extension of last year's Public Act No. 13-307 (House Bill 6546), which similarly limited the co-payments for physical therapy services.

As an occupational therapist working with a variety of clients, it is important to note that our focus of interventions is on meaningful engagement in occupations from early childhood through the aging process. Our skillset of providing neuromotor interventions, based on our educational backgrounds are only a portion of our training. We gain knowledge and experience with psychosocial/emotional development as well as environmental factors that support or hinder participation. So, from a holistic approach, we work to habilitate, rehabilitate, and/or modify and adapt situations, skills sets, and meaningful activities to promote independence throughout the life span. Due to this expansive skill set it is imperative that clients be provided with equal opportunity for services similar to physical therapy.

I, once again, ask for your support of this legislation.

Thank you for your time. I am available to answer any questions you might have and have included information on how to reach me below.

Sincerely,

*Valerie Strange*

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